

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09622 021949Z

44

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 091668

O 021832Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3969

S E C R E T GENEVA 9622

NODIS

TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FROM REINHARDT

DEPT PASS LONDON FOR SEITZ AND MASERU FOR AMB SCHAUFELLE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR RH UK

SUBJ: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: DEC 2 INTER-DELEGATION
MEETING

1. UNLIKE THE FIRST ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT, TODAY'S MEETING PROVED TO BE MUCH MORE POSITIVE. EXCEPT FOR A SHORT EXCHANGE BETWEEN VAN DER BYL AND MUGABE, THE ACRIMONY WHICH MARKED YESTERDAY'S SESSION WAS MISSING.

2. THE MEETING, WHICH LASTED ALMOST THREE HOURS, OPENED WITH BISHOP MUZOREWA PRESENTING A RESTATEMENT OF HIS NOVEMBER 17 POSITION (GENEVA 9605). RICHARD THEN ASKED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO PRESENT ITS POSITION, AND MUGABE READ A DETAILED 7 PAGE PAPER WHICH WE WILL SUBMIT SEPARATELY. THE PAPER HAS FEW SURPRISES. IT CALLS FOR THE ASSIGNMENT OF A BRITISH RESIDENT COMMISSIONER WITH LIMITED AUTHORITY AND A CABINET COMPLETELY DOMINATED BY THE NATIONALIST WHICH WILL HAVE ALL EFFECTIVE POWER. MALINDI, SPEAKING FOR THE SITHOLE DELEGATION, THEN FOLLOWED AND SAID THAT HE WOULD PRESENT HIS PROPOSALS ON DECEMBER 3.

3. RICHARD ADJOURNED THE MEETING FOR ONE HOUR

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 GENEVA 09622 021949Z

SO THAT EACH DELEGATION COULD CONSIDER THE PAPERS.

DISCUSSIONS RESUMED WITH THE CONSIDERATION OF MUZOREWA'S CALL FOR ELECTIONS OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT. THIS DISCUSSION WAS ORDERLY AND THE BRITISH BARELY TOOK PART. THE THREE NATIONALIST DELEGATIONS QUESTIONED MUZOREWA HARD ON HIS ELECTORAL PROPOSAL AND NONE SHARED MUZOREWA'S VIEW THAT AN ELECTED GOVERNMENT WAS A GOOD IDEA. NKOMO ASKED HOW ELECTIONS WOULD WORK ON THE EASTERN BORDER OF RHODESIA IF THE POLLING BOOTHS WHICH ACCEPTED THE VOTES OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS WERE CONTROLLED BY RHODESIA FRONT SOLDIERS. MUZOREWA'S SPOKESMAN LAMELY ARGUED THAT SINCE THE ELECTIONS WOULD BE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, THE RHODESIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD SHOW ITS GOODWILL.

4. AFTER ALMOST AN HOUR'S DISCUSSION OF THE MUZOREWA APPROACH, THE PARTICIPANTS DISCUSSED THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S DESCRIPTION OF A COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

5. THE ONLY UNPLEASANT MOMENT CAME WHEN VAN DER BYL REMARKED THAT ALL THE PROPOSALS SEEMED TO BE "ALICE IN WONDERLAND" AND QUITE DIVORCED FROM REALITY. HE SAID THAT HE ASSUMED LIBERATION MOVEMENTS MEANT TERRORISTS. MUGABE ACCUSED VAN DER BYL OF BEING "FOULMOUTHED".

6. THE DELEGATIONS WILL MEET AGAIN TOMORROW AND THE BRITISH PLAN TO ORGANIZE THE DISCUSSIONS ALONG THEMES WHICH WOULD INCLUDE SUBJECTS LIKE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITIES, HOW TO SET UP A COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND PERHAPS THE BRITISH ROLE.CATTO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INDEPENDENCE, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GENEVA09622
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840099-9622
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761279/aaaacqun.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <07 SEP 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA CONERENCE: DEC 2 INTER-DELEGATION MEETING
TAGS: PFOR, PDEV, RH, UK
To: STATE SS LONDON MASERU
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006